

CWD PREVENTION

Chronic wasting disease has not been found in Kentucky. The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources has tested over 7,000 hunter-harvested deer and elk since 1997, and all were negative. Hunters should feel comfortable hunting deer and elk, but should follow common sense precautions such as not eating animals that look or act sick.

- We must continue surveillance of wild and captive deer and elk.
- A complete importation ban of cervids is needed to prevent the introduction of CWD.
- KDFWR must remain the lead regulatory agency over deer, elk and their relatives.
- At present, there is no vaccine and no live animal test.

THE BOTTOM LINE

- Deer and elk are important **wildlife** resources.
- CWD is detrimental to wildlife and negatively affects people socially and economically.
- Captive deer/elk are at high risk for CWD due to high density confinement.
- Regulation of deer/elk importation and holding should remain with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.
- KDFWR will remain vigilant in protection of all deer/elk in Kentucky.

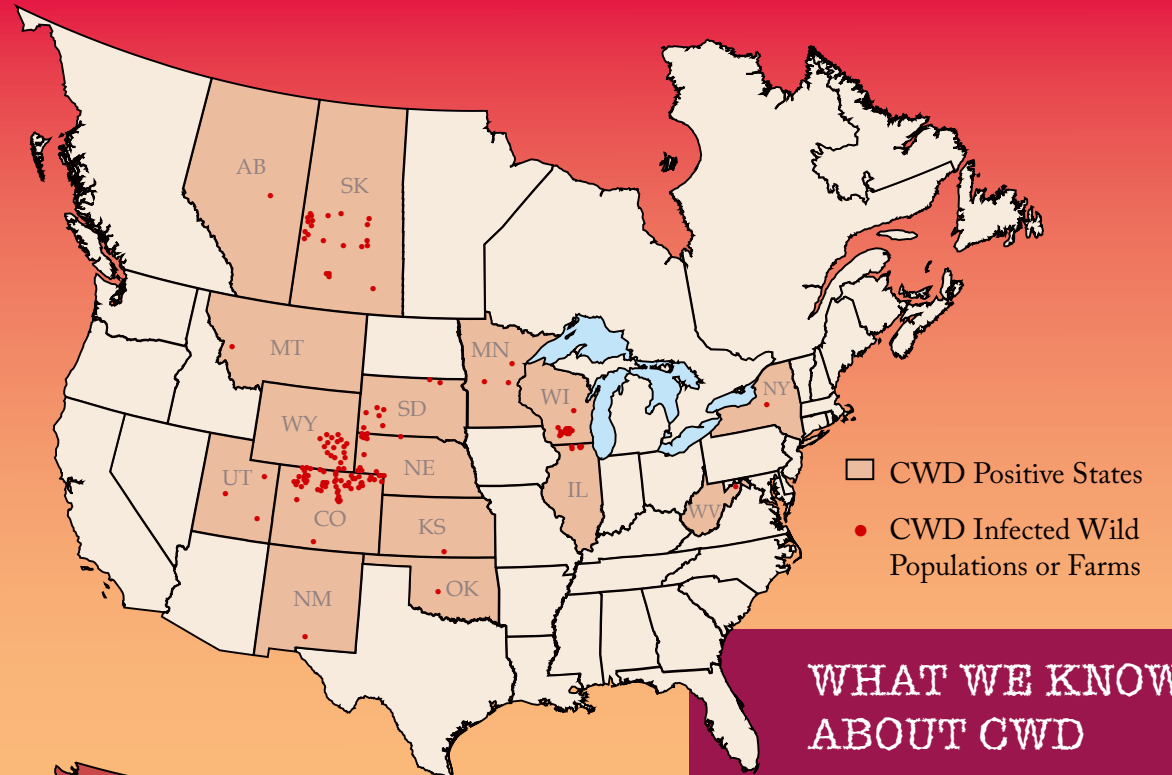
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The Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is funded through the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. It receives no general fund tax dollars.

If you feel that you have been discriminated against by this department, please contact: Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Game Farm Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601; phone (502) 564-3400.

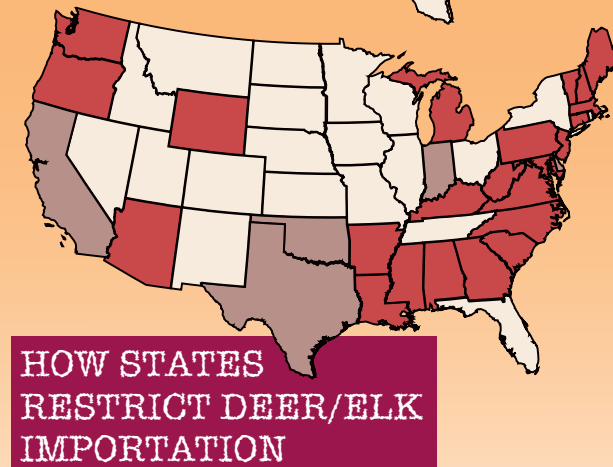


Chronic Wasting Disease



WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT CWD

- Fatal brain disease of deer and elk caused by abnormal proteins.
- Causes progressive weight loss and “wasting”.
- Similar to “mad cow” in cattle and scrapie in sheep.
- Spread via contaminated soil and direct contact between animals.
- Spread primarily by movement of captive animals.
- Incubation period is at least 5 years.
- No approved live animal test. No vaccine.
- Not yet known to be transmissible to humans or livestock.



HOW STATES RESTRICT DEER/ELK IMPORTATION

- Total ban
- Bans importation from CWD-infected states
- Restricts importation from specific high-risk areas

Spread of CWD in North America

State or Province w/ CWD in Captive Animal Populations
 CWD Infected Wild Populations

1967 - 95

CWD is known to occur in captive facilities and the surrounding wild deer and elk in Colorado and south-central Wyoming and is confined to this endemic area for 30 years.



1996 - 97

In 1997, CWD is identified in South Dakota and Saskatchewan captive herds. In December 1997, Kentucky begins elk restoration, avoiding states with CWD.

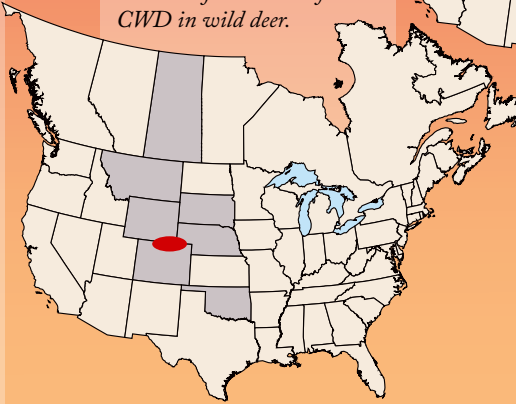


How could CWD impact Kentucky?

Hunter numbers could decline due to fear of CWD. Native deer herds could increase far above current levels, causing crop damage, nuisance deer and deer-vehicle collisions. While CWD is not currently known to affect cattle or humans, consumers could be hesitant to accept livestock products from CWD infected areas.

1998 - 2000

Movement of cervids from CWD positive areas by ranchers continues. Captive herds in Nebraska, Oklahoma and Montana test positive. Nebraska finds a case of CWD in wild deer.



2001

In 2001, wild deer in South Dakota and Saskatchewan test positive for CWD.

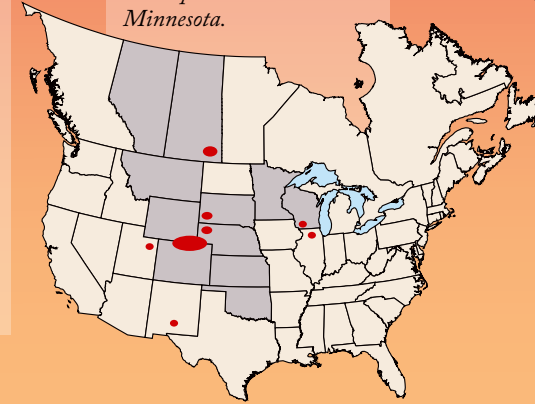


Economic impacts

The risk of CWD has caused concern among hunters nationwide. With **271,000** deer hunters supporting

2002 - 03

In 2002, Kentucky discontinues importation of elk for restoration purposes. By 2003, wild herds in Wisconsin, New Mexico, Utah & Illinois test positive. CWD in captive herds spread to Alberta and Minnesota.



2005

In 2005, a captive and a wild deer in New York test positive for CWD. West Virginia and Alberta discover CWD in wild deer. Also in 2005, the first moose tests positive for CWD.



3,500 jobs and an annual economic impact of **\$409 million¹** in Kentucky, a decline in license sales would be devastating to rural Kentucky.

1. Southwick and Associates, Fish and Wildlife Economics

jumped the species barrier from deer to elk, and more recently, to moose. Research continues.

Can humans or livestock be infected with CWD?

There is no scientific evidence that CWD has or can spread to humans, either through contact with infected animals or by eating the meat of infected animals. The Centers for Disease Control has stated: "The risk of infection with the CWD agent among hunters is extremely small, if it exists at all". Although CWD has not spread from infected animals to livestock, it has